(b) if so, the details of the Units to be closed, including the valuation, performance during the last five years; and

(c) the steps taken by the HZL to protect the interest of employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) Sargipalli Lead Mine (Orissa), Agnigundala Lead Mines (Andhra Pradesh), Maton Rock Phosphate Mine (Rajasthan) and Tundoo lead Smelter (Jharkhand) have been identified by Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) as economically unviable units based on the operational results and after conducting detailed studies. The losses/profits of these four units during the last five years are given below:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Profit (+)/Loss (—)

Name of the Unit	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
Sargipalli lead Mine	(-) 126	(-) 648	(-) 805	(-) 1266	(-) 1430
Agnigundala Lead Mine	(-) 17	(-) 328	(-) 461	(-) 605	(-) 534
Maton Rock Phosphate Mine	(-) 260	(+) 80	(+) 325	(+) 100	(-) 84
Lead Smelter, Tundoob	(+) 139	(-) 488	(-) 385	(-) 1113	(-) 1088

The interest of the employees is protected by introduction of Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS)/Special Voluntary Retirement Scheme (SVRS) from time to time by the Company.

Production/Import of Copper

2836. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the present annual copper production capacity of India;

(b) what is the expected capacity addition in the year 2001-2002; and

(c) the total copper imported in 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) the present annual copper production capacity of India is 2,97,500 Tonnes.

(b) It is expected that capacity addition in annual production of copper in the year 2001-2002 would be around 50,000 Tonnes.

(c) As per the information furnished by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, the total import of copper and copper products during April, 2000 to February, 2001 was valued at Rs. 894.56 crores.

Study on Harappan Civilization under Water

2837. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a team of scientists from National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), on one of its routine offshore surveys stumbled upon the ruins of Harappan Civilization under water;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any systematic study of the material discovered has been carried out;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government would set up any special team of scientists and indologists to carry out a full-fledged survey of the area and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai while carrying out multidisciplinary underwater surveys of Gujarat coast during October, 2000 March, 2001, located archaeological sites in the Gulf of Cambay at 30 to 40m water depth extending over a length of 9 km. west of Hazira. During surveys NIOT came across a stretch of formations, typical of the riverine regime in the middle of the sea. The state of the art side scan surveys have picked up images that reveal excellent geometric objects which are normally man made. The area is seen to be lined with well laid house basement like features partially covered by sand waves and ripples.

(c) and (d) The study conducted was on the basis of the underwater acoustic images. To confirm the age of these underwater structures, samples have to be collected from the study area and taken for dating studies. Since the